News release

Met Office at earth summit

23 August 2002

The Met Office has revealed today it will be providing information on global weather conditions for the world 'earth summit' in Johannesburg, which starts tomorrow (August 24).

The World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) is being attended by some 45,000 international delegates, and the Met Office has been asked specifically to provide the details on the weather around the world over the two-week period. The Met Office will be working closely with the South African Weather Service, who will then disseminate the information to the delegates via IT and the summit's official newspaper Outreach.

Don MacLeod, Met Office Public Business Sector Manager, said: "As well as the general reports on the weather globally we will be alerting the summit to any significant events such as typhoons."

Topics, including natural disasters and pollution, will be discussed at the summit. The Met Office is sending its own delegation, which includes climate-change expert Debbie Hudson, and will be providing its Horace forecasting system for delegates to access.

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